

Report Title:	Combined Authority Policy Framework 2022-23
Portfolio Holder:	Portfolio Holder Policy, Resources and Reform
Summary of decision being sought	Report to be noted.
Is this report exempt? No	Reason for Exemption Not applicable
Is this a Key Decision	No
Local Authorities affected	None
Impact and implications of this report	
Financial impact	No, see paragraph 5.1
Delegation of decision sought	N/A
Supporting the Corporate Plan	A Fairer City Region ✓ A Stronger City Region ✓ A Cleaner City Region ✓ A Connected City Region ✓ A Vibrant City Region ✓
Climate Change Implications	No, see paragraph 5.3
Equality and Diversity implications	No, see paragraph 5.4
Social Value implications	No, see paragraph 5.5
Human Resources implications	No, see paragraph 5.6
Physical Assets implications	No, see paragraph 5.7
Information Technology implications	No, see paragraph 5.8
Legal implications	No, see paragraph 5.9
Risk and Mitigation	No, see paragraph 5.10
Privacy implications	No, see paragraph 5.11
Communication and consultation implications	No, see paragraph 5.12
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Appendices

Yes

Background Documents

No

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

To: Liverpool City Region Combined Authority

Meeting: 10 June 2022

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POLICY, STRATEGY AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER POLICY, REFORM AND RESOURCES

COMBINED AUTHORITY POLICY FRAMEWORK 2022-23

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an overview of the Combined Authority policy framework which sets the policy and strategic context for its activities – both internal and external. This report also provides details of key policies and strategies approved by the Combined Authority in the 2021-22 municipal year.
- 1.2 The Combined Authority's policy framework consists both of key policy and strategy documents approved by the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority over the previous municipal year and those policy and strategy documents approved since 2017 (when the Combined Authority became a Mayoral Combined Authority) which remain in force. The schedule of these latter policy documents is set out in Appendix 1 of this report.
- 1.3 This report also identifies key strategic policy documents that are due to be reported to the Combined Authority for approval, or review, in the forthcoming municipal year.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority notes and reaffirms its agreement to the contents of this report and Appendix 1.

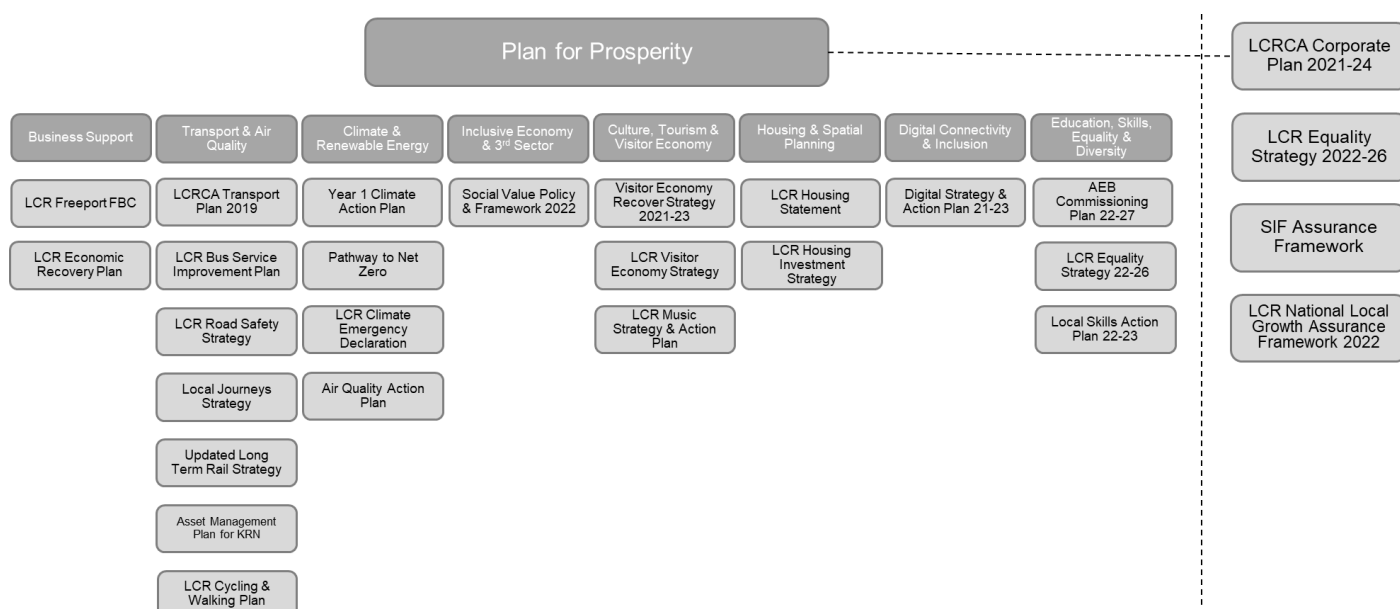
3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority was established on 1st April 2014 and brings together Liverpool City Region's six local authorities, which are Halton Borough Council, Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Liverpool City Council, Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council, St Helens Metropolitan Council and Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council. In 2017, the Metro Mayor was elected, and the Combined Authority became a Mayoral Combined Authority.

3.2 The Devolution Agreements provide the LCR Combined Authority with a range of powers including those relating to economic and spatial development, transport, skills, planning and housing. The Combined Authority discharges its associated responsibilities through the development and implementation of policy which identifies strategic priorities and which, in turn, inform a range of financial investments and interventions delivered in line with its adopted Corporate Plan.

4. COMBINED AUTHORITY POLICY FRAMEWORK

4.1 Since becoming a Mayoral Combined Authority in 2017, the Combined Authority has formally approved and adopted a series of key policy and strategy documents which represent the policy framework under which the Combined Authority operates and which guides much of its activities, including expenditure. This policy framework is set out in the following diagram.



4.2 Key Policies and Strategies Approved in 2021-22 Municipal Year

The Combined Authority approved a series of policy and strategy documents in the last municipal year. Details of these are summarised as follows and are listed in chronological date of approval.

LCRCA Corporate Plan 2021 - 24

Date Approved: July 2021

The Corporate Plan is the key, central document that sets out the Combined Authority’s vision for the City Region, grouped around priority areas of a Fairer, Stronger, Cleaner, Connected and Vibrant City Region. The Corporate Plan sets the context for all the Combined Authority’s activities – including policy and strategy documents.

[LCRCA Corporate Plan 2021-24](#)

Review Date: 2024

AEB Commissioning Plan 2022 – 27

Date Approved: July 2021

The Adult Education Budget Commission Plan sets out the Combined Authority's approach to the contracting arrangements and priorities relating to the use of the devolved AEB funding for the second Commissioning Cycle from 2022/23 onwards. The Commissioning Plan describes the approach to Grant funding agreement commissioning, procurement of contracts for services, subcontracting arrangements and local flexibilities.

[LCR AEB Commissioning Plan 2022 - 2027](#)

Review Date: None specified. To be reviewed on an ongoing basis

LCR Bus Service Improvement Plan

Date Approved: September 2021

The BSIP sets out the measures required to meet the LCR's Vision for Bus and the objectives of Bus Back Better. Together, these measures will deliver a fundamental shift in how bus services are delivered, so that more passengers want, and are able, to travel by bus.

[LCR Bus Service Improvement Plan](#)

Review Date: None specified.

LCR Road Safety Strategy

Date Approved: November 2021

The LCR Road Safety Strategy proposed a step change in approach, with a clear recognition that deaths and serious injuries on the road are preventable and that they are neither acceptable nor inevitable. It includes a bold target to reduce the number and severity of road traffic collisions, working to an overall Vision Zero target that by 2040 no one will be killed or seriously injured (KSI) on the roads in the Liverpool City Region.

Review Date: none specified

LCR Plan for Prosperity

Date Approved: January 2022

The Plan for Prosperity is an integrated economic and place-based strategy that sets out our long-term vision –up to 2035 -for transforming together to deliver a **Fairer, Stronger, Cleaner** Liverpool City Region.

It sets out key priorities as to how the Liverpool City Region will build on its key strengths, address its challenges, and how it intends to position itself nationally and globally.

[Plan-for-Prosperity](#)

Review Date: None specified

LCR National Local Growth Assurance Framework

Date Approved: January 2022

In January 2019, HM Government published a revised Assurance Framework, the 'National Local Growth Assurance Framework', subsuming the Local Enterprise Partnership ("LEP") National Assurance Framework as well as Single Pot Assurance Frameworks, where they apply to Mayoral Combined Authorities. The amalgamation of these frameworks reflects the evolving relationship between LEPs and Combined Authorities and seeks to provide clarity on the respective roles of these organisations in working together.

This document therefore replaces the previous National Local Growth Assurance Framework of April 2019, agreed jointly by the LCRCA and the LEP. The Assurance Framework will be reviewed annually, with any significant divergence from the current format to be submitted to DLUHC for approval.

[LCR National Local Growth Assurance Framework](#)

Review Date: January 2023

Pathway to Net Zero

Date Approved: January 2022

This document created a clear policy framework that set the foundations for actions for the City Region to achieve its climate and sustainability goals in the light of the declaration of the climate emergency in the City Region in 2019. It is consistent with the Corporate Plan and will specifically help deliver its ambition to be a Cleaner city region.

[Pathway to Net Zero](#)

Review Date: Will be superseded by the approval of the Net Zero Carbon Action Plan in the forthcoming municipal year.

Visitor Economy Recovery Strategy 2021 -23

Date Approved: January 2022

The Short Term LCR Visitor Economy Recovery Strategy to March 2023 was commissioned on behalf of the City Region's Visitor Economy Board (VEB) and funded by Growth Platform. It updated the LCR's Visitor Economy Strategy and Destination Management Plan (published in 2016) to take account of the impact of the Covid – 19 pandemic, focusing specifically on the two-year period from 2021 to 2023, to help rebuild private sector confidence, post pandemic, and from this identifying a sustainable long-term funding model to support the future development of the visitor economy.

Review Date: Expires in 2023

Social Value Policy and Framework

Date Approved: March 2022

4.3

Policy and Strategy documents due to be reported to the Combined Authority in the 2022

The Social Value Framework was developed to provide a consistent approach to maximising the social value that the CA can create through its activities. This will contribute significantly to the Corporate Plan objective of a Fairer City Region.

[Social Value Policy and Framework](#)

Review Date: None specified

LCR Equality Strategy 2022-26

Date Approved: March 2022

This strategy confirms the CA commitment to embed equality in everything that it does, recognising that equality is an important driver for the City Region to become fairer and stronger, in line with the Corporate Plan.

[LCRCA Equality Strategy 2022 - 26](#)

Review Date: 2026

Local Skills Action Plan 2022-23

Date Approved: March 2022

This Action Plan is set within the context of post-pandemic recovery and current economic slowdown. It sets out a series of actions designed to ensure that City Region residents have the right skills to benefit from, and contribute to, the economic opportunities that the City Region has including the need to become net zero carbon, the Freeport, and the continued investment in bioscience research and manufacturing.

[Local Skills Action Plan 2022-23](#)

Review Date: 2023

LCR Freeport – Full Business Case

Date Approved: April 2022

This report updated Members on the LCR Freeport designation process and to seek approval for the submission of the Freeport Full Business Case to government. This follows on from the submission of the Outline Business Case approved by the CA in September 2021.

[NB: the Freeport Full Business Case is a restricted document due to issues of commercial confidentiality, but the hyper link below is for the covering report to the Combined Authority in April 2022.

[LCR Freeport FBC CA Paper](#)

Review Date: None required as this is a business case submission

nts which are due to be reported to the Combined Authority for its approval in the forthcoming municipal year. This will assist in informing the work of the CA's Overview and Scrutiny function over the next 12 months.

Spatial Development Strategy Engagement

Proposed Reporting Date: Summer / Autumn 2022

Local Transport Plan 4: Preferred Strategy

Proposed Reporting Date: Autumn 2022

Net Zero Carbon Action Plan

Proposed Reporting Date: Autumn 2022

Cycle Parking Strategy

Proposed Reporting Date: Sept 2022

Wayfinding Strategy

Proposed Reporting Date: Sept 2022

Bus Service Improvement Plan Update

Proposed Reporting Date: Autumn 2022

Procurement Strategy

Proposed Reporting Date: Autumn 2022

LCR Investment Strategy

Proposed Reporting Date: Autumn 2022

LCR National Local Growth Assurance Framework

Proposed Reporting Date: Spring 2023

5. IMPACT AND IMPLICATIONS

5.1. Financial

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report which is a review of the approved Combined Authority policy framework. Any implications will have been addressed in the respective documents at time of approval. Forthcoming policy and strategy documents will address any financial implications during their preparation and will be set out prior to formal CA approval.

5.2 Supporting the Corporate Plan

All the key policy documents approved since 2017 will have helped support the extant Corporate Plan in place at the time. The current Corporate Plan, approved in 2021, has set the context for the development of policy and strategy documents since then. Key policy documents due to be approved in the forthcoming municipal year will have the delivery of the Corporate Plan's objectives as a principal objective.

5.3 Climate Change

Mitigating the impact of climate change and helping the Liverpool City Region become net zero carbon by 2040 or sooner, is a key consideration for the relevant policy documents approved since the City Region declared a climate emergency in 2019. This will be a key consideration in the relevant policy documents due to be published in the forthcoming municipal year and this will be addressed during their preparation and approval.

5.4 Equality and Diversity

This report is for information and, as such, no formal Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been completed. Several of the policy documents highlighted in this report, however, are accompanied by their own bespoke EqIA which informed their development. All key policy documents due to be published in the forthcoming municipal year will be informed by an EqIA as they are drafted to ensure that due consideration is given to the potential impact on those groups with protected characteristics.

5.5 Social Value

The Combined Authority's Social Value Policy and Framework was approved in March 2022. Accordingly, all key policy documents and strategies due for approval in the forthcoming municipal year will have as a key consideration, the delivery of the Combined Authority's social value policy

5.6 Human Resources

There are no implications for human resources arising from this report.

5.7 Physical Assets

There are no implications for physical assets in this report

5.8 Information Technology

There are no implications for information technology arising from this report.

5.9 Legal

There are no legal implications from this report. Any such implications will have been addressed when the policy documents identified in this report were approved

by the Combined Authority. Any legal implications arising from policy documents to be approved in the forthcoming municipal year, will be addressed at the appropriate time in their development and approval.

Approval of this document ensures that the policy framework for the Combined Authority is clear to all. The Combined Authority constitution requires that for a decision to be lawful it must be made within both the policy and budget framework. Annual publication of this report will ensure that the policy framework is up to date and understood.

5.10 Risks and Mitigation

Given that this report is a Review of policy documents approved in the previous municipal year, there are no risks that require mitigation. Policy documents due to be approved in the forthcoming municipal year will consider risks and any necessary mitigation at the appropriate time.

5.11 Privacy

There are no privacy implications arising from this report.

5.12 Communication and Consultation

There are no issues in this report that require specific communication or consultation. For those policy documents to be approved in the forthcoming municipal year that will require consultation and / or specific communication, this will be undertaken and addressed at the appropriate time.

6. **CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 This report provides Members with an update of the Combined Authority's policy framework consisting of key strategic policies adopted by the Combined Authority in the 2021-22 municipal year, along with those adopted between 2017-21 by the Combined Authority and which remain in force. Taken together, these documents (unless time expired) provide the policy framework for Combined Authority activity and decisions. This report also identifies key policy and strategy documents that are due for approval in the forthcoming municipal year. This forward look will support the work of the Combined Authority's Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and media and communications activity, over the next 12 months.

KIRSTY MCLEAN
Executive Director Policy, Strategy
and Government Relations

STEVE ROTHERAM
Portfolio Holder for Policy, Reform &
Resources

Appendices

Appendix One – Key Policies and Strategies approved 2017 to 2021

**APPENDIX 1 – KEY POLICIES AND STRATEGIES APPROVED 2017 TO 2021
MUNICIPAL YEARS WHICH REMAIN IN FORCE**

<p>Local Journeys Strategy</p> <p>Local Journeys Strategy</p> <p>Review Date: None specified</p>	<p>Date Approved: Sept 2017</p>
<p>Updated Long Term Rail Strategy</p> <p>Rail Strategy</p> <p>Review Date: none specified</p>	<p>Date Approved: Nov 2017</p>
<p>Liverpool City Region Visitor Economy Strategy</p> <p>Review Date: 2025</p>	<p>Date Approved: April 2018</p>
<p>Asset Management Plan for Key Route Network</p> <p>Modern Gov - Issue - items at meetings - LCR 44 - Key Route Network Carriageway Asset Management Plan (CAMP)</p>	<p>Date Approved: October 2018</p>
<p>Climate Emergency</p> <p>Review Date: 2040 net zero carbon target date</p>	<p>Date Approved: June 2019</p>
<p>Combined Authority Transport Plan</p> <p>LCRCA-TRANSPORT-PLAN.pdf</p>	<p>Date Approved: June 2019</p>
<p>LCR Cycling and Walking Plan</p> <p>https://www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/LCR-LCWIP-Final-1.pdf</p> <p>Review date: Expires 2029</p>	<p>Date Approved: Oct 2019</p>
<p>LCR Housing Statement</p> <p>-HOUSING-STATEMENT</p>	<p>Date Approved: Nov 2019</p>
<p>LCR Music Strategy and Action Plan</p> <p>STRATEGY-LCR-Music-Board-15.10.21.pdf (lcrmusicboard.co.uk)</p>	<p>Date Approved: December 2019</p>

<p>Post Covid 19 Economic Recovery Plan</p> <p>https://www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/LCRCA_BBB_2020.pdf</p> <p>Review Date: n/a</p>	<p>Date Approved: July 2020</p>
<p>Strategic Investment Fund and Assurance Framework</p> <p>Review Date: 2022</p>	<p>Date Approved: Sept 2020</p>
<p>LCR Housing Investment Strategy</p> <p>Review Date: none specified</p>	<p>Date Approved: Nov 2020</p>
<p>Air Quality Action Plan</p> <p>Review Date: None specified</p>	<p>Date Approved: Dec 2020</p>
<p>Digital Strategy and Action Plan 2021-23</p> <p>Digital Strategy and Action Plan</p> <p>Review Date: Expires 2023</p>	<p>Date Approved: Feb 2021</p>